

## MEETING OF

### THE DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation was held at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, 2320 S. DuPont Hwy. Dover, Delaware, November 9, 2005, with the following members in attendance:

Robert F. Garey, Chairman	Mark Davis (representing Michael T. Scuse, Secretary of Agriculture)
William Vanderwende, Chairman	Ann Visalli Deputy State Treasurer (representing Jack Markell, State
Lyn Davenport, Secretary	Treasurer)
Theodore P. Bobola, Jr.	W. Allen Jones, Chair of the Governor's Council on Forestry

Absent: Kevin Coyle (representing John Hughes, Secretary of DNREC, and Dennis Clay.

The following staff members were in attendance: Michael McGrath, Howard Mesick, Milton Melendez, Cathy Mesick, and Robin West.

Others in attendance: William Denman, Esq., Mr. Phil Tuthill, Mr. Raymond Book, Jr., CPA, and Ms. Renee Slaughter, CPA.

Chairman Garey opened the meeting at 8:35 a.m. with prayer.

#### I. Progress Report:

Milton Melendez informed the Board that we have a total of 608 farms in preservation districts totaling 140,577 acres, with a total of 442 farms under agricultural easements totaling 79,944 acres at a cost of \$103,631,448. In Purchase of Development Rights Round 11 we currently have received applications for 80 farms with a total of 12,277 acres.

#### II. Expansion Eligibility/Final Approval

1. The Pizzadili Expansion of the Norman G. Wilder District, ID#K-05-10-026G. After discussion, **Lyn Davenport moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Pizzadili Expansion of the Norman G. Wilder District, seconded by Mark Davis. Motion unanimously approved.**
2. The Churchman Farms LP Expansion of the Tappahanna District, ID#K-05-10-219D. After discussion, **Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Churchman Farms LP Expansion of the Tappahanna District, seconded by William Vanderwende. Motion unanimously approved.**
3. The Brown Expansion of the Vogl District, ID#K-05-10-041F. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Brown Expansion of the Vogl District, seconded by Lyn Davenport. Motion unanimously approved.**

#### III. Public Comments – No public comment was received.

#### IV. Minutes - Chairman Garey asked if there were additions or corrections to the October 12, 2005 minutes. Receiving no additions or corrections to the minutes, **Theodore Bobola, Jr. moved the minutes be approved, seconded by William Vanderwende. Motion unanimously approved.**

#### V. Financial Highlights:

Cathy Mesick informed the Foundation Board that we had, as of October 31, 2005, \$6,913.53 in the Foundation's checking account. The Foundation's interest bearing State of Delaware account had a balance of \$97,932.06. There was no revenue for the month of October. Expenditures for the month of October totaled \$7,528.91. After discussion, **Lyn Davenport moved to accept the Financial Report as presented, seconded by Theodore Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

Raymond Book & Company presented the Foundation Audit. Mr. Raymond Book, Jr. explained to the Foundation that his firm has given the Foundation an unqualified opinion (which is the highest you can receive in an audit). Ms. Renee Slaughter explained certain of the trends which the audit has shown, among them being that the Roll Back Taxes are not as large as they were the previous year; (previously Michael McGrath had pointed out that this shows that we are preserving farmland) and that our fees for contractors have gone down as we now employ one of our contractors as a State employee. Mr. Book then informed the Foundation that copies of the audit have been forwarded to the Auditor of Accounts. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept the audit as presented, seconded by W. Allen Jones. Motion unanimously approved.**

VI. Executive Session – No Executive Session was necessary.

VII. Other Business

Michael McGrath informed the Foundation of the official establishment of the Kent County Conservancy last night. He also let the Board know that we expect a visit from a team from the Internal Revenue Service sometime in December. Mr. McGrath also informed the Board that he is still working with New Castle County on a Memorandum of Understanding.

Robin West informed the Foundation that we will have Michael Petit de Mange and Sarah Keifer from Kent County Planning at our next Foundation meeting. In January our visitors should be from New Castle County and February we will have Sussex County attending. These visits are to explain the new database/GIS system.

VII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Foundation, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m. The next meeting of the Foundation will be held on December 14, 2005 at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lyn Davenport  
Secretary